

Michael Gielen

- 1927** Born in Dresden on 29 July
- 1940–1950** Family emigrates to Argentina. Tuition in piano and music theory, then studied music and philosophy; first compositions. Works as répétiteur at the Teatro Colón with Erich Kleiber
- 1950/51** Returns to Europe, to the Vienna State Opera; works as répétiteur and has first encounters with Karajan, Mitropoulos, Böhm and others
- 1952** First conducting appearance at the Vienna Konzerthaus; first recordings for American record labels
- 1954** First conducting appearance at the Vienna State Opera
- 1960–64** Principal Conductor at the Royal Opera, Stockholm
- 1964–1984** Collaboration with the Southern Radio Symphony Orchestra (which later became the Stuttgart Radio Symphony Orchestra); regular conductor for a while alongside Sergiu Celibidache
- 1965** World premiere of B. A. Zimmermann's opera "Die Soldaten" in Cologne and world premiere of Ligeti's "Requiem" at Swedish Radio, Stockholm
- 1966–1975** Regular collaboration with the Symphony Orchestra of Saarland Radio (which later became the Saarbrücken Radio Symphony Orchestra, then once more in 2008 with its successor organization, the German Radio Philharmonic)
- 1967** Start of regular collaboration with the Southwestern Radio Orchestra (which later became the Symphony Orchestra of Southwestern Radio). Before that, a record production for Vox around 1956/57 and a concert in 1961.
- 1968–1973** Principal Conductor of the Belgian National Orchestra
- 1973–1975/6** Principal Conductor at the Dutch Opera, Amsterdam
- 1977–1987** Head of Opera and General Music Director at the Frankfurt Opera
- 1978–1981** First Guest Conductor of the BBC Symphony Orchestra, London
- 1980–1986** Music Director of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra
- 1985** Hessian Culture Prize
- 1986** Theodor W. Adorno Prize of the City of Frankfurt
- 1986–1999** Principal Conductor of the SWF Symphony Orchestra, Baden-Baden (which later became the SWR Symphony Orchestra of Baden-Baden and Freiburg); regular Guest Conductor from 1999; Honorary Conductor since 2002; last appearance with the orchestra in January 2014
- 1987–1995** Professor of Conducting in Salzburg
- From **1990** Principal Guest Conductor of the Berlin Symphony Orchestra (which later became the Berlin Konzerthaus Orchestra); later only concerts with the Staatskapelle; last appearance in October 2012
- From **1991** Music Director at the Berlin State Opera; later only concerts with the Staatskapelle; last appearance in October 2012
- 1996** Music Prize of the City of Vienna
- 1997** Grand Silver Order of Merit for services rendered to the Republic of Austria
- 1999** Frankfurt Music Prize
- 2005** Publication of the autobiography "Unbedingt Musik"
- 2007** Theatre prize "Der Faust" for lifetime achievement
- 2010** Music Prize of the Ernst von Siemens Music Foundation • Knight Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany • Culture Medal of Upper Austria
- 2014** Michael Gielen ends his conducting activities for health reasons. Last conducting appearance with the NDR Symphony Orchestra in February 2014.